

WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY:

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UN
SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION
№ 1325 IN GEORGIA

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TBILISI
2011

WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY:

Implementation of the UN Security
Council Resolution # 1325 in Georgia

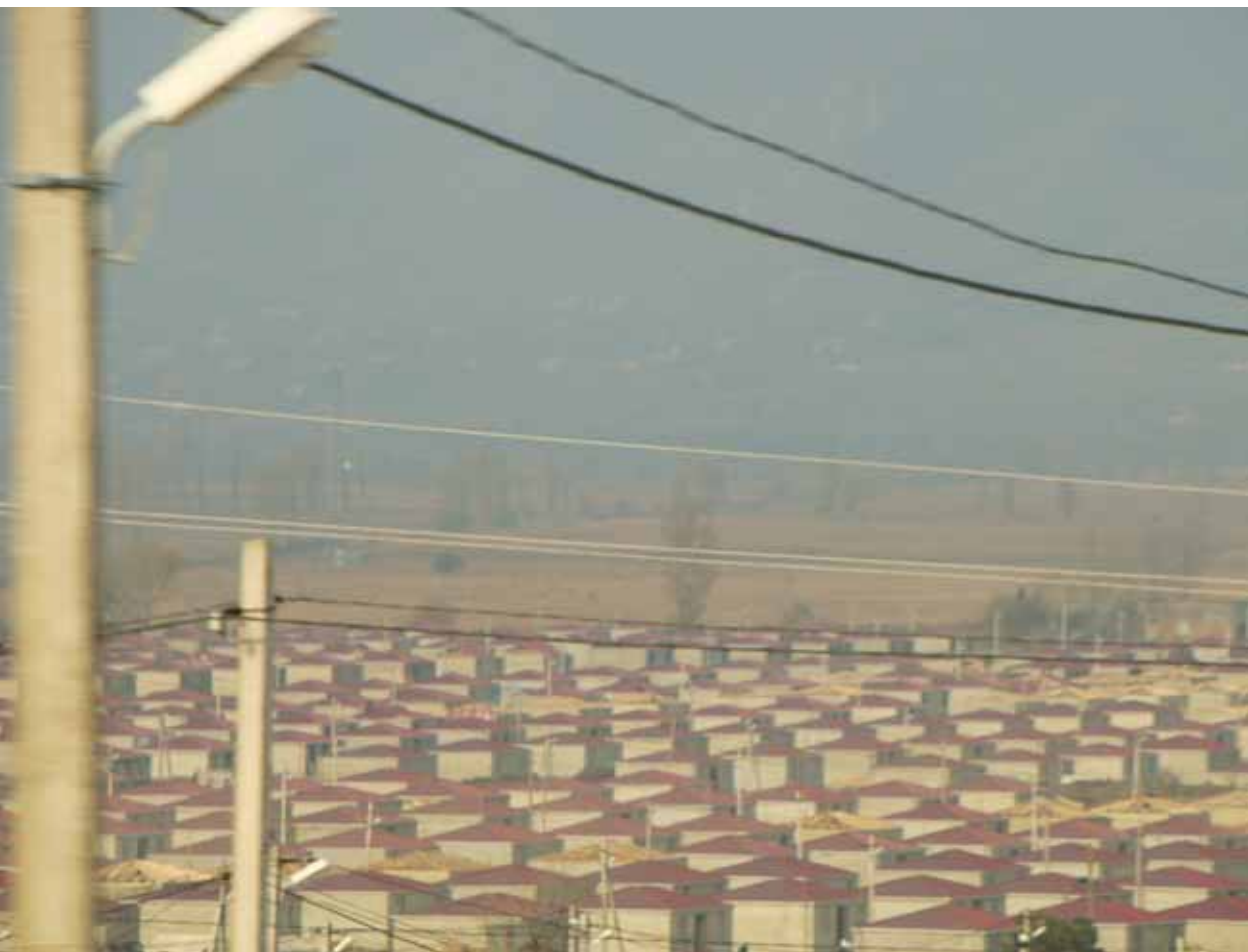
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2011

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Tserovani

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ABBREVIATIONS

CEDAW	Convention on Elimination of all forms of discrimination against women
CRINGO	Network of Caucasian NGOs working on problems of IDPs and refugees
OSCE / ODIHR	Office of democracy and human rights office of the OSCE
UNSCR 1325	UN Security Council Resolution # 1325
UNIFEM	United Nations Development Fund for Women
UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
UNDP	UN Development Programme
UNFPA	UN Population Fund

FOREWORD

The brochure below contains the overview of the UN Security Council Resolution # 1325 and stages of its implementation in Georgia – current status, problems, obstacles and perspectives, as well as role of the civil society and participation of IDP women in these processes.

Along with the main text, separate articles of the UN Security Council Resolution # 1325 are highlighted. It allows the reader to easier follow the whole text of the Resolution (for the purpose of raising awareness) and to involve in the process of implementation and monitoring of the Resolution.

Brochure is made for experts in women and gender issues, as well as for interested persons and public in general.

We hope that after reading the brochure, our reader will be willing to observe process related to implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution # 1325 in Georgia and contribute to ensuring peace and security in the country.



INTRODUCTION

*August 27, 2008
Gori*

GEORGIA AND INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS IN THE AREA OF WOMEN'S RIGHTS

During Many years, an attempt of connecting an issue of violence against women with the security issue, was left without due attention by diplomatic organizations at local or international levels. In this regard, fundamental change was achieved due to efforts of the UN, which in the year of 2000 adopted a Resolution # 1325 on Women, Peace and Security at the Security Council. The Resolution connected peace and security issues with issues of women's rights.

**GEORGIA
ACCEDED TO THE
CONVENTION ON THE
ELIMINATION OF ALL
FORMS OF
DISCRIMINATION
AGAINST WOMEN ON
SEPTEMBER 22,
WITHOUT ANY
RESERVATION.**

ADOPTED BY THE
SECURITY
COUNCIL AT ITS
4213TH MEETING,
ON 31 OCTOBER
2000 THE SECURITY
COUNCIL, >>

Did women manage and to what extent to contribute their vision to the world security agenda? What progress if achieved since adoption of the Resolution till today? What is the role of women in ensuring security? These are questions, which international community asks of itself 10 years later.

On September 22, 1994, Georgia joined the Convention on Elimination of all types of Discrimination against Women – CEDAW. In February 1998, the country presented a first report, which was reviewed by the Committee on its 21st session on June 8-11, 1998. Together with positive assessment, Georgia received final comments and recommendations of the Committee on issues, raising concerns.

Simultaneously with National Accounts, first alternative report of Georgian women NGOs was presented to the Committee in 1998.

On August 7-25, 2006, at the 36th session, the Committee for elimination of all types of discrimination heard the second and third periodic reports of Georgia on 747 and 748 sessions. The list of issues for review and questions were reflected in the CEDAW/C/GEO/3, and answers of Georgia were provided in the CEDAW/C/GEO/Q/Add.1. Second and third alternative reports were presented by Women NGOs as well.

The Committee expressed concerns on the small number of women participating in public and political life, diplomatic bodies, executive power, local self-government and parliament (paragraph 23) and called the government on conducting a

campaign aimed at increase of number of women participating in public and political life and decision making processes and raising awareness of women on importance of participation (paragraph 24).

In addition, the Committee requested the member-states to include gender issues in all state poverty elimination programmes and strategies; it also requested to pay attention on vulnerable groups, including rural women, elderly, women-breadwinners, IDPs and girls (paragraph 28).

In its final recommendation, the Committee reminded the member-state “of its commitment to systematically and permanently work on implementation of all provisions of the Convention (paragraph 8)”.¹

Pursuant to those recommendation and comments, which Georgia received following joint review of the 2nd and 3rd reports, CEDAW Committee suggested the member-states to present a consolidated 4th and 5th periodic and alternative reports in November of 2011.

Results of implementations of the CEDAW Committee will be included in the 2011 Report prepared and submitted by the Government; it will also be reflected in alternative reports of women NGOs.

Despite the fact that after 2006 a lot was done in terms of research and practical work, majority of

>> **RECALLING**
ITS RESOLUTIONS
1261 (1999) OF 25
AUGUST 1999, 1265
(1999) OF 17
SEPTEMBER 1999,
1296 (2000) OF 19
APRIL 2000 AND
1314 (2000) OF 11
AUGUST 2000,
AS WELL AS
RELEVANT
STATEMENTS OF
ITS PRESIDENT, AND
RECALLING ALSO
THE STATEMENT OF
ITS PRESIDENT TO
THE PRESS ON THE
OCCASION OF THE
UNITED NATIONS
DAY FOR WOMEN'S
RIGHTS AND
INTERNATIONAL
PEACE
(INTERNATIONAL
WOMEN'S DAY) OF 8
MARCH 2000
(SC/6816), >>

1. Committee on elimination of all forms of discrimination against women; session 36; August 7-25, 2005: Final Comments of the Committee on elimination of all forms of discrimination against women



*August 27, 2008
Gori
My Home*

recommendations of the Committee, provided at the 2nd and 3rd reports review were not fulfilled and there is still much to consider.

In order to prepare the CEDAW alternative report and recommendations, in November 2010 the conference on “Implementation of CEDAW Convention in Georgia – challenges and perspectives” was held. Aim of the conference was to review surveys/researches and data accumulated in the area of gender equality in 2007-2010. The conference was held upon initiative of the Women’s Information Centre with support of the Swedish Fund “Women for Women” (Kvinna till Kvinna) and in partnership with International Centre for Women Education and Information, which is implemented together with the Women Information Centre in the framework of the programme Matra of the Embassy of Kingdom of Netherlands.

More than 50 women’s non-governmental and international organizations participated in the con-

ference as well as gender equality experts, lawyers, justices of the Supreme Court of Georgia, representatives of academic area and people, who have certain experience in gender equality and women's rights.

The conference participants were presented with the Universal Periodic overview of the women's status, which was prepared by 21 women NGOs with support of UN Women and it was presented to the 10th session of the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva. Results of the Universal Overview review – recommendations, which will be reflected in the next alternative report for CEDAW implementation.

Resolution of the UN Security Council # 1325 represents an important instrument for implementation of CEDAW obligations; therefore, adoption of it will be of great importance for the country.

As stated by majority of leading experts, implementation of the goals of the Resolution 1325 may lead to reduction of conflicts, elimination of use of rape as a war instrument, long-lasting peace, as well as combating impunity for sexual abuse. In addition, all of the above listed can be achieved in conditions of equal participation of men and women.

Women, are especially vulnerable in war, however, at the same time, they easily adapt to changes and are guarantors of stability. Unfortunately, they are insufficiently represented in political structures at all levels. Women represent half of the population, but, as a rule, in national representations they comprise only 1/5. Besides, as

**>> RECALLING
ALSO THE
COMMITMENTS OF
THE BEIJING
DECLARATION AND
PLATFORM FOR
ACTION (A/52/231)
AS WELL AS THOSE
CONTAINED IN THE
OUTCOME
DOCUMENT OF THE
TWENTY-THIRD
SPECIAL SESSION
OF THE UNITED
NATIONS GENERAL
ASSEMBLY ENTITLED
"WOMEN 2000:
GENDER
EQUALITY,
DEVELOPMENT AND
PEACE FOR THE
TWENTY-FIRST
CENTURY"
(A/S-23/10/REV.1),
IN PARTICULAR
THOSE CONCERNING
WOMEN AND ARMED
CONFLICT, >>**

**>> BEARING IN
MIND THE
PURPOSES AND
PRINCIPLES OF THE
CHARTER OF THE
UNITED
NATIONS AND
THE PRIMARY
RESPONSIBILITY
OF THE SECURITY
COUNCIL UNDER
THE CHARTER FOR
THE MAINTENANCE
OF INTERNATIONAL
PEACE AND
SECURITY, >>**

*Gori, in 2008
View from Open Window*

a rule, women are represented in conflict settlement negotiations, although their experience plays major role in building and keeping peace.

Men and women become conflict victims equally, therefore, the latter shall be actively involved in the decision making processes. If women are not equal partners of the process, then such a process will not reflect views, needs, and interests of the half of the population of the conflict regions. Thus, decisions may not be effective enough.

Due to all those reasons, UN Security Council Resolution # 1325 remains very important even in 10 years after adoption.

In the passed years a lot has been achieved in the area of women protections and capacity building in entire world. UN institutional mechanisms became more refined. They ensure gen-



der equality and improvement of women's conditions. Creation of the new UN organization for the purpose of improving the women's status (led by Chile's ex-President Michelle Bachelet) will definitely help governments and other international organizations, including NATO, in improving coordination of efforts for the purpose of implementation of the Resolution # 1325.

Many governments adopted special national action plans aimed at capacity building of women and protection of their security; this became a significant element of the national policy.

At the NATO Summit of 2010 in Strasburg and Köln, all NATO country leaders declared readiness to actively support implementation of the #1325 Resolution. In recent years, NATO actively worked with many partner countries and other international organizations for the purpose of exchange of optimal methodologies and specific proposals in order to better integrate gender equality issues in the current and future activities of the NATO. At the Lisbon Summit countries certified commitments, earlier adopted in the area of women rights and security.

Despite successes, the strategic goal of 1995 Beijing Action Platform – “Women and Armed Conflicts” – equal participation of women in conflict settlements and peace building process remains one of the most vulnerable areas. In addition, it is absolutely obvious, that growth of violence, endless wars and conflicts of various scale and goals, which kill millions, cannot be and should not be considered as a pressing problem and battlefield of men only.

EXPRESSING
CONCERN THAT
CIVILIANS,
PARTICULARLY
WOMEN AND
CHILDREN,
ACCOUNT
FOR THE VAST
MAJORITY OF THOSE
ADVERSELY
AFFECTED BY
ARMED CONFLICT,
INCLUDING AS
REFUGEES AND
INTERNALLY
DISPLACED
PERSONS, AND
INCREASINGLY ARE
TARGETED BY
COMBATANTS AND
ARMED ELEMENTS,
AND RECOGNIZING
THE CONSEQUENT
IMPACT THIS HAS
ON DURABLE
PEACE AND
RECONCILIATION,
>>

**>> REAFFIRMING
THE IMPORTANT
ROLE OF WOMEN IN
THE PREVENTION
AND RESOLUTION
OF CONFLICTS AND
IN PEACE-BUILDING,
AND STRESSING
THE IMPORTANCE OF
THEIR EQUAL
PARTICIPATION AND
FULL INVOLVEMENT
IN ALL EFFORTS FOR
THE MAINTENANCE
AND PROMOTION
OF PEACE AND
SECURITY, AND THE
NEED TO INCREASE
THEIR ROLE IN
DECISION-MAKING
WITH REGARD TO
CONFLICT
PREVENTION AND
RESOLUTION, >>**

It is necessary to consider that exclusion of women from world events may lead to:

- weakening of the strategies effectiveness in terms of peace, development and reconstruction;
- weakening of peace negotiation and agreements;
- weakening of national economy

Development of the national action plan and its implementation represents a key requirement for the purposes of implementation of the 1325 Resolution. Currently, practically all experts agree that no universal methodology exists for identification of priorities for the national action plan and a lot depends on specific features of the country. One of the sources of methodology is UN guidelines on “Policy and Planning for Women, Peace and Security” (Resolution # 1325 of the UN Security Council).

The guidelines contain detailed explanation of the worldwide recognized methodology and the action planning process as well as approached to be used at various stages. It is a resource of a big potential, which serves the purpose of developing the national action plan, especially at the initial stage.

Together with the UN guidelines, for the purpose of implementation of the Resolution 1325, Council of Europe published a Strategy for Women, Peace and Security. It covers four topics:

- Actions and strategies aimed at elimination of conflicts;
- Support to active and constructive participation of women in peace process

- Protection of rights of women and girls
- Support to women and girls, considering their need to participate in the rehabilitation processes

Complex approach of the EU covers: regional dialogue; monitoring of implementation of EU-funded projects and projects on gender equality; support to state organizations, local authorities, scientific-research institutions and civil society. Despite specificities of various countries, we can identify three most important priorities, which shall be considered for the adoption of the national action plan aimed at implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution # 1325:

- Allocation of budget funds for implementation of the national action plan;

**>> REAFFIRMING
ALSO THE NEED TO
IMPLEMENT FULLY
INTERNATIONAL
HUMANITARIAN AND
HUMAN RIGHTS LAW
THAT PROTECTS
THE RIGHTS OF
WOMEN AND GIRLS
DURING AND AFTER
CONFLICTS, >>**

*August 27, 2008
Gori, in Ruins*



EMPHASIZING THE NEED FOR ALL PARTIES TO ENSURE THAT MINE CLEARANCE AND MINE AWARENESS PROGRAMMES TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE SPECIAL NEEDS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS, >>

- Involvement of civil sector representatives in the development and implementation of the action plan, both in conflict community and donor countries;
- joint and parallel monitoring over implementation of the national action plan by non-governmental as well as state organizations

All persons responsible for implementation of the Resolution shall participate in the process of action plan priorities identification, both in conflict as well as in non-conflict situations. National action plan shall be developed as a result of consultations with various stakeholder groups; participation of women in the process is crucial.

Persons responsible for implementation of the # 1325 Resolution:

Local level: UN local agencies, mass media representatives, human rights defenders, community representatives, local leader-women;

National level: ministries, academic and statistics organizations, parliament, institutions and Defence Ministries, police, courts and tribunals;

Regional level: UN regional bodies, regional governmental structures and civil society organizations, regional networks of non-governmental organizations

Global level: UN, international donor community

Women, peace and security represent global issues and they shall be a priority for those, involved in the process of developing national action plans.



OVERVIEW OF THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION # 1325

*August 27, 2008
Gori*

UN Security Council Resolution # 1325 recognizes disproportionate large effect of wars and conflicts on women and children. Document underlines that historically women did not participate in the conflict settlement processes. UN Security Council Resolution # 1325 demands full and equal participation of women at all levels, starting with early warning on conflicts and ending with peace and security building.

>> **RECOGNIZING**
THE URGENT NEED
TO MAINSTREAM
A GENDER
PERSPECTIVE INTO
PEACEKEEPING
OPERATIONS, AND
IN THIS REGARD
NOTING THE
WINDHOEK
DECLARATION AND
THE NAMIBIA PLAN
OF ACTION ON
MAINSTREAMING A
GENDER
PERSPECTIVE IN
MULTIDIMENSIONAL
PEACE
SUPPORT
OPERATIONS
(S/2000/693), >>

Key provisions of the Resolution # 1325 are:

- participation of women;
- protection of women and girls;
- training of military and civil police and civil personnel of peace operations on gender issues;
- consideration of gender issues in filed operations;
- resolution of conflicts

Participation of women

Resolution once again certifies important role of women in prevention and settlement of conflicts, as well as in peace building processes and underlines significance of equal and comprehensive participation of women in maintaining peace and security; it also points out the necessity of strengthening role of women in prevention and settlement related decision making process

(articles 1,2,3,4)

For instance:

- Increase of women representation in legislative, judicial and other governing bodies, as well as support to their participation in elections;
- Appointment of women to high posts in organizations, working on peace and security issues (UN and OSCE, for instance)
- Take action aimed at ensuring participation of women in official and unofficial meetings, peace negotiations and mediation;

- Consult women organizations during preparation of peace of and security policies;

Protection of women and girls

Resolution underlines respect to international law and standard in the area of human rights, protecting rights of women and girls in conflict and post-conflict periods.

Article 9,10,11

For instance:

- actions aimed at prevention of human trafficking and security
- training of police on domestic violence issues;
- reminding of gender related violence in reparation² discussions and peace agreements;
- protection and support to victims of sexual abuse in conflicts

Training of military and civil police and civil personnel of peace operations on gender issues

Resolution urges “member-states to increase voluntary financing, technical and logistical support in all programmes to consider the gender-sensitive aspects”

Article 6, 7

For instance:

- include gender issues in training programmes for military and civil police personnel;

>> **RECOGNIZING ALSO THE IMPORTANCE OF THE RECOMMENDATION CONTAINED IN THE STATEMENT OF ITS PRESIDENT TO THE PRESS OF 8 MARCH 2000 FOR SPECIALIZED TRAINING FOR ALL PEACEKEEPING PERSONNEL ON THE PROTECTION, SPECIAL NEEDS AND HUMAN RIGHTS OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN CONFLICT SITUATIONS, >>**

2. Reparation – one of the forms of material responsibility of international law subjects, when the court requires the offender to provide compensation for material damages in the form of money or certain goods

RECOGNIZING THAT AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE IMPACT OF ARMED CONFLICT ON WOMEN AND GIRLS, EFFECTIVE INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS TO GUARANTEE THEIR PROTECTION AND FULL PARTICIPATION IN THE PEACE PROCESS CAN SIGNIFICANTLY CONTRIBUTE TO THE MAINTENANCE AND PROMOTION OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY, >>

- develop methodology and instruments aimed at increasing gender-related awareness;

Consideration of gender issues in field operations

Resolution calls upon consideration of gender issues in peace operations

Articles 5,8,13,14,15,16,17

For instance:

- consideration of gender issues in the context of objectives of the Security Council;
- consideration of gender issues in mandates of peacekeeping missions

Resolution of Conflicts

From the very beginning women shall be able to participate in other undertakings aimed at taking strain off, dialogue and reconciliation in communities.

Article 1

For instance:

- participation of women in settlement of significant conflicts, in the trust restoring process.
- support to peacekeeping at the local and international communities levels.

In different years the UN Security Council, adopted four important Resolutions, deriving from Resolution 1325 and aimed at women, peace and security:

- Resolution # 1325 – “Women, Peace and Security” – adopted in 2000;
- Resolution # 1820 – “On termination of sexual violence against civilians in the conflicts” - adopted in 2008
- Resolution # 1888 – “Sexual Violence during Wars” – adopted in 2009
- Resolution # 1889 – which states measures, aimed at inclusion of women in the peacekeeping process at all stages and calls upon assessment of implementation of the Resolution # 1325, as well as summarising indicators
- Resolution # 1960 – Resolution # 1960 – concerns to collect information about sexual violence in situations of armed conflict. This phenomenon was called „A great step to defeat terrible practice”. It had ratified by 60 countries and the initiator to adopt this resolution was Human Rights Watch, - adopted in 2010.

>> **NOTING**
 THE NEED TO
 CONSOLIDATE
 DATA ON THE
 IMPACT OF ARMED
 CONFLICT ON
 WOMEN
 AND GIRLS, >>

August 27, 2008
 Gori



1
URGES MEMBER STATES TO ENSURE INCREASED REPRESENTATION OF WOMEN AT ALL DECISION-MAKING LEVELS IN NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND MECHANISMS FOR THE PREVENTION, MANAGEMENT, AND RESOLUTION OF CONFLICT;

Resolutions of the UN Security Council on women, peace and security apply to all UN member-states and it means that states take commitments to implement those Resolutions.

National action plans, aimed at implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution # 1325 and other deriving Resolutions, represent directive documents adopted by national governments. They describe specific measures and actions, which shall be implemented in those states for the purpose of implementing the UN Security Council Resolution # 1325.

In October 2000, after adoption of the Resolution # 1325, more and more countries adopted national action plans for ensuring peace and security at national levels.

According to data of February 2011, 25 countries adopted and developed national action plans: Austria, Belgium, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Canada, Chile, Ivory Coast, Denmark, Congo, Holland, Estonia, Finland, France, Iceland, Libya, Nepal, Norway, Philippines, Portugal, Rwanda, Sierra-Leone, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Uganda, United Kingdom.

Action plans being currently developed: Argentina, Burundi, Salvador, New Zealand, Pakistan, Serbia, South Africa, and Timor-Lest³ and Georgia.

³ Available on e-mail:
www.peacewomen.org/pages/about-1325/national-action-plans-naps

Status of Affairs in Georgia:

After adoption of the law on Gender Equality by the Parliament of Georgia, and the national action plan for implementation of the Gender Equality Policy, an issue of developing the action plan aimed at implementation of the # 1325 Resolution becomes a topic on agenda. This process represents a priority and is envisaged under the national action plan for implementation of the Gender Equality Policy for 2010-2013; currently is in the adoption process.

2

ENCOURAGES THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO IMPLEMENT HIS STRATEGIC PLAN OF ACTION (A/49/587) CALLING FOR AN INCREASE IN THE PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN AT DECISIONMAKING LEVELS IN CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND PEACE PROCESSES;

October 12, 2008





*Public School in Zemo Nikhozi,
in 2008*

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1325 IN GEORGIA

Georgia accepted a commitment to implement provisions of international legal documents (Beijing Action Platform, UN Convention “On Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women”, Millennium Declaration and UN Security Council Resolution # 1325), which positively affected empowerment of women in terms of involvement of women of Georgia in all areas of social and political life and peace building and conflict resolution processes.

Experience shows that in Georgia, women fail to actively affect or participate in conflict settlement and peace processes.

1st – 2001 - year of adoption of the Resolution #1325 of the UN Security Council had passed without significant actions, since almost no one knew about this document. Resolution provisions are very important for Georgia, since together with the break up of the Soviet Union, in two regions – Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia and Autonomous County of South Ossetia armed conflicts had started. Despite the fact that tragedy caused by conflicts affected the whole country, it specifically affected population from these regions and adjacent territories, more so, women and children.

The group of women from NGO sector first stated talking about that Resolution in summer of 2002. Small scale monitoring was conducted; aim of it was to determine whether or not state bodies' representatives were informed about the above mentioned Resolution. It was determined that nobody among high ranking officials knew about the Resolution. Following this, the letter was sent to the President of the country, as well as to speaker of the Parliament and state bodies. Letters, written by women organizations, spoke about importance of the document in question.

3 **URGES THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO APPOINT MORE WOMEN AS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVES AND ENVOYS TO PURSUE GOOD OFFICES ON HIS BEHALF, AND IN THIS REGARD CALLS ON MEMBER STATES TO PROVIDE CANDIDATES TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, FOR INCLUSION IN A REGULARLY UPDATED CENTRALIZED ROSTER;**

4

FURTHER URGES THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO SEEK TO EXPAND THE ROLE AND CONTRIBUTION OF WOMEN IN UNITED NATIONS FIELD-BASED OPERATIONS, AND ESPECIALLY AMONG MILITARY OBSERVERS, CIVILIAN POLICE, HUMAN RIGHTS AND HUMANITARIAN PERSONNEL;

The first training module



First step ever in support of popularizing the UN Security Council Resolution # 1325, was made in 2002 by eleven⁴ non-governmental organizations, with support of UNIFEM in the framework of the project “Women’s Council for Peace”.

Women’s Council for Peace worked in four major directions:

First direction envisaged public hearing of women in the Parliament. The aim of the group was to arrange regular public hearings in the Parliament in the peace building process, on the role of women.

Second direction envisaged information activities of the agency “Woman’s Voice”. Aim of the group was to popularize role of women in peace and cultural processes.

Third direction envisaged public diplomacy and implied regular meetings in the conflict affected regions. Main objective of the activity was to restore trust, elimination of the “enemy icon” and cooperation between Abkhaz, Ossetian and Georgian women.

Fourth direction implied popularization of the UN Security Council Resolution # 1325.

4. Single Parent’s Association; Women’s Council of Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia; Women’s Information Centre; People’s Harmonious Development Society; Businesswomen of Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia; Union of Wives Invalids and Lost Warriors; People’s Harmonious Development Society; “Sabinebi” Association of Abkhazian Women; Association “Gender – Media – Caucasus”; Women’s Council of Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia; Caucasus Women’s Network; Women’s Association of Gali Region; Association of women of South Ossetia for Democracy and Human rights

In this direction was created a training module “1325”. Information about Resolution #1325 was widely disseminated among state structures, broad public and, especially, among IDPs. It was a very good instrument for NGOs to start a dialogue with the government on implementation of provisions of the Resolution. Cooperation between state structures and NGOs were of great importance in this process. It concerned formulation of the state policy as well as specific individuals, especially those affected by the conflict and finding solutions for them; women among them faced most difficulties.

In 2001-2006, UNIFEM has been implementing regional project “Women for Conflict Prevention and Peace Building in South Caucasus”; the aim of the project was to provide support to activities of women’s organization in South Caucasus for the purpose of peace building and conflict resolution. The project facilitated creation of the coalition “Women for Peace” in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia.

In February 2003, in the framework of the mentioned project, national network was established in Georgia – “Unity of Women for Peace”; it developed on the basis on the Women’s Council for Peace. About 100 non-governmental women organizations became members of the network. The network’s first step was made on September 21, 2003 in celebration of the International Peace Day.

5

EXPRESSES ITS WILLINGNESS TO INCORPORATE A GENDER PERSPECTIVE INTO PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS, AND URGES THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO ENSURE THAT, WHERE APPROPRIATE, FIELD OPERATIONS INCLUDE A GENDER COMPONENT;

6

REQUESTS THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO PROVIDE TO MEMBER STATES TRAINING GUIDELINES AND MATERIALS ON THE PROTECTION, RIGHTS AND THE PARTICULAR NEEDS OF WOMEN, AS WELL AS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF INVOLVING WOMEN IN ALL PEACEKEEPING AND PEACEBUILDING MEASURES, INVITES MEMBER STATES TO INCORPORATE THESE ELEMENTS AS WELL AS HIV/AIDS AWARENESS TRAINING INTO THEIR NATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMMES FOR MILITARY AND >>

On that day, peaceful actions were conducted in various cities of Georgia – Batumi, Tskhinvali, Akhaltsikhe, and Tbilisi. Aim of the action was to draw attention of the public to the role of women in the peace building process.

Women-leaders of Georgia, visited conflict zones many time (Gali region, Tskhinvali region) and through public diplomacy route assisted restoration of trust, peace agreements and conflict peaceful resolution negotiations. New personal contacts were established, cooperation between women NGOs in conflict zones of Georgia (Tskhinvali region and Abkhazia) and the rest of Georgia improved.

The conference “UNSCR 1325 – Step forward” was held in 2006, in Tbilisi. It was dedicated to 5 years of the UN security Council Resolution 1325. Conference was organized by the UNIFEM project “Women for Conflict Prevention and Peace Building in South Caucasus”. State structures and approximately 40 representatives of the Parliament participated in the conference; in addition, government and non-government organizations’ representatives also took part in the work of the conference. Women NGOs played a leading role in the work of the conference.

As a result of the above mentioned conference the representation of the UNIFEM network “Women and Peace” was opened within the Staff of the State Minister of Georgia.

The aim of the office was to connect and coordinate initiatives of the Women's Peace Initiative and state bodies, working on conflict resolution and peace building issues.

In 2006 women's organizations facilitated the process of drafting the first national action plan under the Resolution # 1325. Despite the fact that a big volume of work was performed and a lot of efforts applied, the process never ended with adoption of the plan; however, some aspects of the document were reflected in the 2007-2009 action plan for implementation of the Gender Equality Policy.

In 2007, women's organizations participated in the development of the IDP strategy, which later was adopted by the Parliament of Georgia. Women's organizations raised issues of women's conditions and provided

>> CIVILIAN
POLICE PERSONNEL
IN PREPARATION
FOR DEPLOYMENT,
AND FURTHER
REQUESTS THE
SECRETARY-
GENERAL TO
ENSURE THAT
CIVILIAN
PERSONNEL OF
PEACEKEEPING
OPERATIONS
RECEIVE SIMILAR
TRAINING;

*Village Zemo Nikhozi,
November 18, 2008*



7

URGES MEMBER STATES TO INCREASE THEIR VOLUNTARY FINANCIAL, TECHNICAL AND LOGISTICAL SUPPORT FOR GENDER-SENSITIVE TRAINING EFFORTS, INCLUDING THOSE UNDERTAKEN BY RELEVANT FUNDS AND PROGRAMMES, INTER ALIA, THE UNITED NATIONS FUND FOR WOMEN AND UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND, AND BY THE OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES AND OTHER RELEVANT BODIES;

recommendations; in addition, they included gender aspects in the document.

In August of 2008, during the Russia-Georgia war, women's organizations actively worked on rendering help and assistance to "new wave" IDPs, who were forced to leave their places of residence and found asylum in Tbilisi and other cities and villages of Georgia.

During this period non-governmental organizations performed a lot of work, managed to mobilize districts of Tbilisi, towns and villages, business communities, to render humanitarian assistance in IDP settlements. In addition, the work was being performed aimed at information dissemination, targeted distribution of humanitarian assistance to IDPs; such humanitarian assistance was provided by different international and non-governmental organizations.

In 2010, the 2011-2013 gender equality national action plan was drafted, were implementation of the #1325 Resolution represents one of priority issues. The 2011-2013 gender equality national action plan is currently under consideration. Gender equality council of the Parliament represents an important institutional mechanism for formulation of the gender equality policy of the country. The work of the Gender Equality Parliamentary Council with support of the UN Women project "Women for Equality,

Peace and Development” (funded by the technical assistance of Norway) is leading the process of developing the national action plan for implementation of the #1325 Resolution. In March of 2011, the Council created a special work group, which includes parliament, ministries and civil society representatives. The aim of the group is to develop a national action plan for implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution #1325 and to ensure coordinated and effective work between different groups, involved in women’s, peace and security issues. Members of the work group are: Parliamentary Committee for Defence and Security and Euro-integration, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Defence, Na-

8
**CALLS ON
ALL ACTORS
INVOLVED, WHEN
NEGOTIATING
AND IMPLEMENTING
PEACE
AGREEMENTS,
TO ADOPT A
GENDER
PERSPECTIVE,
INCLUDING,
INTER ALIA: >>**

*Village Brotsleti, in 2008,
Motherland*



>> (A) THE SPECIAL NEEDS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS DURING REPATRIATION AND RESETTLEMENT AND FOR REHABILITATION, REINTEGRATION AND POST-CONFLICT RECONSTRUCTION;

(B) MEASURES THAT SUPPORT LOCAL WOMEN'S PEACE INITIATIVES AND INDIGENOUS PROCESSES FOR CONFLICT RESOLUTION, AND THAT INVOLVE WOMEN IN ALL OF THE IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISMS OF THE PEACE AGREEMENTS; >>

tional Security Council, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Staff of the State Minister for Reintegration, Ministry for IDPs from occupied territories, Refugees and Accommodation, Ministry for Labour, Healthcare and Social Welfare, Ministry of Education and Science, and Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development. Representation of civil society in the work group is provided by the Women's Information Centre, which simultaneously arranges coordination meetings with non-governmental organizations and professionals, working on gender equality issues as well as with affected and IDP women. At the meetings recommendation and proposals are developed; they will be considered in the process of drafting the national action plan. Women's Information Centre ensures involvement of the civil society sector in the work on the Resolution # 1325 action plan.

For that purpose, the UN Women selected local expert-consultants, who facilitate development of the action plan together with the parliamentary Council and work group. In the end of the process it is planned to organize a large public meeting, where a final version of the plan will be discussed. Government, as well as non-governmental organizations, will participate in the meeting.

PARTICIPATION OF IDP WOMEN IN THE PEACE PROCESS

According to the Resolution # 1325 “Recognizing that an understanding of the impact of armed conflict on women and girls, effective institutional arrangements to guarantee their protection and full participation in the peace process can significantly contribute to the maintenance and promotion of international peace and security”.

During wars, status of women changes in families as well in societies. The reason for that is first of all an armed conflict, which obliges them to discharge various functions and play completely different roles. This has advantages – women autonomies are ex-

*August 28, 2008
Gori
Waiting for set free hostages*



>> (C) MEASURES THAT ENSURE THE PROTECTION OF AND RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS, PARTICULARLY AS THEY RELATE TO THE CONSTITUTION, THE ELECTORAL SYSTEM, THE POLICE AND THE JUDICIARY;

panded and their independence strengthen, as well as disadvantages and can lead to serious results for women and, therefore, for their children.

In experts' opinion, in the area of peace building, IDP women, who constitute 55% of that society, today wide opportunities are created for their activities.

It happens at the community level (informal and formal leaders) and at the level of NGOs local self-governance and central government, where women become more active.

Consolidation of women around most important problem may lead to the peace movement of women. It is important to activate women and perform joint activities. If problems are solved by women at the community level, then such experience may be used in peacemaking negotiations of parties, as well as in advocacy process.

Civil and peace education represents an important area, where women are assigned a special role. Results of such processes may be a publication, scientific analysis paper or recommendation. In addition, resume, prepared by the Human Rights Commissar, 11th chapter of which concerns "Internally Displaced Persons" states that "in developing state strategy and action plan for IDPS, the government tried to include IDPs in the activity, however, afterwards, they practically did

not participate in the decision making process, affecting their lives”.

Article 8 of the Resolution # 1325 “Calls on all actors involved, when negotiating and implementing peace agreements, to adopt a gender perspective, including, inter alia: (a) the special needs of women and girls during repatriation and resettlement and for rehabilitation, reintegration and post-conflict reconstruction;⁵

In addition, article 10 of the # 1325 Resolution “Calls on all parties to armed conflict to take special measures to protect women and girls from gender-based violence, particularly rape and other forms of sexual abuse, and all other forms of violence in situations of armed conflict”

Women especially suffer when displaced not only because they are unable to protect themselves without men and live under the risk of violence or exploitation, but because in addition to daily obligations they have to perform other functions as well. In addition, they have to take care of children and find resources for their education.

According to statements of official structures, IDPs actively participate in social programmes planning and it takes place with different methods: meetings of ministers

9

CALLS UPON ALL PARTIES TO ARMED CONFLICT TO RESPECT FULLY INTERNATIONAL LAW APPLICABLE TO THE RIGHTS AND PROTECTION OF WOMEN AND GIRLS, ESPECIALLY AS CIVILIANS, IN PARTICULAR THE OBLIGATIONS APPLICABLE TO THEM UNDER THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS OF 1949 AND THE ADDITIONAL PROTOCOLS THERETO OF 1977, THE REFUGEE CONVENTION OF 1951 AND THE PROTOCOL THERETO OF 1967, >>

5. G UN Security Council Resolution 1325; article 8a



September 12, 2008
Gori

and ministry representatives with IDPs and NGOs in a different format, visits of ministry representatives to IDP settlements and studying the situation at site; four regional agencies work actively; they were created locally to address problems of IDPs; training and seminars for IDPs are conducted.

High level of participation of IDPs ensures joint advisory process as it happened during development of the IDP state strategy.

As noted by some local experts, as a result of conflict, participation of IDPs and those affected, namely, participation of women in social and political life and decision making process, is currently very low. IDPs are still “invisible” and all decisions are made on their behalf without them actually participating. The only “niche” where conflict affected and IDP women try to influence the decision making process is the non-governmental sector. Through non-governmental organizations, they try to actively voice out personal problems. These issues require the government and society to perform additional activities, since without their participation in daily life we face inadequate, inefficient and ineffective decisions.

In December of 2006, Special Representative of the UN Secretary General in rights of displaced persons- IDPs Walter Kelin visited Georgia. The Ministry for Internally Displaced Persons accommodation and Refugees

>> THE
CONVENTION ON
THE ELIMINATION
OF ALL FORMS OF
DISCRIMINATION
AGAINST WOMEN
OF 1979 AND THE
OPTIONAL
PROTOCOL T
HERETO OF 1999
AND THE UNITED
NATIONS
CONVENTION ON
THE RIGHTS OF
THE CHILD OF 1989
AND THE TWO
OPTIONAL
PROTOCOLS
THERETO
OF 25 MAY 2000,
AND TO BEAR IN
MIND THE
RELEVANT
PROVISIONS OF
THE ROME
STATUTE OF THE
INTERNATIONAL
CRIMINAL COURT;



*Tbilisi, in 2008,
IDP Centre*

started development of the IDP strategy together with other state bodies and separate representatives of NGOs right after the visit of Walter Kelin. These organizations work on rights of displaced persons –IDPs and other migrants.

During the visit in Tbilisi, Walter Kelin met NGOs, where he has been given a packet of recommendations, prepared by the Women's Information Centre. Part of recommendations were considered by the state during development of the displaced- IDPs strategy.

Currently, problems of conflict affected persons and IDP women in Georgia may be

divided into social, economic and psychological. After the war of August 2008 general number of IDPs was complemented by the “new wave” IDPs.

During initial several months, conflict affected and IDP women had same humanitarian needs as other internally displaced persons (insufficient living space; basic sanitary conditions and hygienic items; places, where they would cook hot meals; opportunity to ensure welfare of personal and family life).

At the next accommodation stage “new wave” IDP women faced other problems:

- adequate nutrition of children;
- creation of relevant conditions for family welfare;
- employment;
- water supply related problems (in some IDP settlements);
- text-books (despite the fact that the government allocated text-books for all children, they required additional number of textbooks);
- settling in new places and related psychological and social problems;
- in some villages – security problems (bordering villages);
- health related problems (including reproductive problems);
- problems related to feeding newborns;
- inability to return to personal residence;

10 CALLS ON ALL PARTIES TO ARMED CONFLICT TO TAKE SPECIAL MEASURES TO PROTECT WOMEN AND GIRLS FROM GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE, PARTICULARLY RAPE AND OTHER FORMS OF SEXUAL ABUSE, AND ALL OTHER FORMS OF VIOLENCE IN SITUATIONS OF ARMED CONFLICT;

11

EMPHASIZES THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ALL STATES TO PUT AN END TO IMPUNITY AND TO PROSECUTE THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR GENOCIDE, CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY, AND WAR CRIMES INCLUDING THOSE RELATING TO SEXUAL AND OTHER VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS, AND IN THIS REGARD STRESSES THE NEED TO EXCLUDE THESE CRIMES, WHERE FEASIBLE FROM AMNESTY PROVISIONS;

- transportation/shipment, free movement problems (safety of visiting their own villages, related expenses, orientation at cities);
- necessary information (about family members, assistance and benefits, safe return, abandoned residence/property, healthcare services and accessibility of such);
- limited availability/accessibility of information sources (TV, newspapers, radio, mobile phones, information boards);
- lack of kitchen and other utensils;

In 2009, for the purpose of financial assistance to IDPs, the state opened a bank account for IDP women. It is assumed that women are more reliable and would better distribute money for children's and additional nutrition. Together with international organizations, the Ministry for Internally Displaced Person from Occupied Territories, Refugees and Accommodation was addressing sanitation problems in order for women and girls to have better and safer living conditions. In 2010, the state budget allocated funds for medical insurance programme implementation in IDP compact settlements, the aim of which was to improve quality of medical services for IDPs.

Simultaneously, the Ministry cooperates with the NGO sector, which implements various programmes for IDPs.

Today IDP women and their families have new problems related to compact settle-

ments and their eviction and resettlement in regions, compensations, employment in new places, etc. It requires urgent decisions and specific actions.

Since 2009, with support of the Norwegian government, the UN Women in partnership with Women's Information Centre and Fund "Taso" implements a project "Women for Equality, Peace and Development". Under the project, the Women's Information Centre conducts consultations with the conflict affected population and local self-governing representatives in accordance with "one-window" principle. Method and effectiveness are determined locally, on site, in municipali-

*Zemo Nikhozi,
October 12, 2008*



12

CALLS UPON ALL PARTIES TO ARMED CONFLICT TO RESPECT THE CIVILIAN AND HUMANITARIAN CHARACTER OF REFUGEE CAMPS AND SETTLEMENTS, AND TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE PARTICULAR NEEDS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS, INCLUDING IN THEIR DESIGN, AND RECALLS ITS RESOLUTIONS 1208 (1998) OF 19 NOVEMBER 1998 AND 1296 (2000) OF 19 APRIL 2000;

ties, by means of individual presentation by conflict affected persons of problems to government institution representatives. Such problems are usually complex and cannot be resolved by efforts of a single institution. Such meetings allow for coordination and joint efforts, for resolution of most urgent and pressing problems in shortest possible time.

In 2010, 5 advisory meetings were conducted (Gori, Rustavi, Kutaisi and Zugdidi). Following problems were identified as a result of such meetings:

Accommodation/settlement: unbearable living and sanitary conditions, rehabilitation of damaged houses, necessity of barns/back rooms and roofing, arrangement of courtyards and adjacent territories.

Healthcare: deficit of health insurance policies (not everyone, who needs, has them), medication, funding surgeries, compensation of natal services (especially for non-IDP spouses of IDPs, residing in compact settlements).

Social protection: extreme poverty, gaps, related to registration in the database of those below the poverty line, monetary allowances, and employment. Up today, out of 57 problems raised at “one window” meetings, 26 were successfully resolved. Women’s information centre together with

UN Women will continue this type of meetings in 2011 and 2012; major focus will be made on rural, IDP and conflict affected persons in remote target regions.

Following submission of National Report on Human Rights by Georgia, High Commissioner for Human Rights prepared a collection of documents, where paragraph 2 “the Rights to Life, Freedoms and Privacy” of the Chapter on “Implementation of International Commitments in the Area of Human Rights in accordance with International Law” states that the Committee on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women expressed concern with regard to lack of poverty feminization and state target programmes, aimed at satisfaction of women’s needs. It required Georgia to include gender aspects in all state programmes and strategies.

Parties to the second joint resolution noted responsibility of the government of Georgia for not evacuating civilians from the conflict zones of the war of August 2008. Domestic legislation obliges the government of Georgia to pay compensation to victims of the war. The government failed to fulfil these obligations with regard to restitution of property and/or compensation to IDPs and other civilians affected by the war. Joint Resolution also noted that majority of war victims did not have information on their rights and thus, they partially are satisfied with what they receive from the government (paragraph 80).

13 ENCOURAGES ALL THOSE INVOLVED IN THE PLANNING FOR DISARMAMENT, DEMOBILIZATION AND REINTEGRATION TO CONSIDER THE DIFFERENT NEEDS OF FEMALE AND MALE EX-COMBATANTS AND TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE NEEDS OF THEIR DEPENDANTS;



*Village Shindisi,
October 12, 2008*

WOMEN IN MILITARY SERVICE

14

REAFFIRMS ITS READINESS, WHENEVER MEASURES ARE ADOPTED UNDER ARTICLE 41 OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS, TO GIVE CONSIDERATION TO THEIR POTENTIAL IMPACT ON THE CIVILIAN POPULATION, BEARING IN MIND THE SPECIAL NEEDS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS, IN ORDER TO CONSIDER APPROPRIATE HUMANITARIAN EXEMPTIONS;

Resolution # 1325, articles 4, 5 and 13:

“Further urges the Secretary-General to seek to expand the role and contribution of women in United Nations field-based operations, and especially among military observers, civilian police, human rights and humanitarian personnel;

Expresses its willingness to incorporate a gender perspective into peacekeeping operations and urges the Secretary-General to ensure that, where appropriate, field operations include a gender component;

Encourages all those involved in the planning for disarmament, demobilization and reintegration to consider the different needs of female and male ex-combatants and to take into account the needs of their dependants”

Measures, taken for attracting women to the UN Police, gave its results. Today, in 17 UN missions, 1218 “blue beret” women serve all over the world among 14 000 police officers.

In August of 2009, the UN launched a special programme, aimed at increasing the number police women by 20% by 2014. Necessity of gender and sexual abuse elimination was specifically underlined and as a key approach, together with increase in number of women police officers,

gender awareness increased as well. Department for peacekeeping increased the number of policewomen as well.

Similarly, UNFPA supported efforts of the Georgian Police to take effective measures to eliminate gender violence; it included incentives for women to work in Police and their promotion.

UNDP and UNIFEM assisted member-states police offices for considering gender aspects in future work. UNIFEM programme on sexual harassment and gender equality covered education/awareness on gender abuse, gender rights and human rights. In addition, free hot-line ser-

*August 12, 2008
Gori*



vice is available in the motorcyclist policemen in special sub-units. According to Senior Advisor of the UN Police, Ann-Marie Orlor, people trust police more, when they see women among police officers. They are good mediators and investigators, they can better teach others. In addition, they are examples to those whom they help.

Under the OSCE/ODIHR programme, which concerned status of women in law-enforcement structures, member –states received assistance for implementation of requirements of the Resolution # 1325. Among performed activities were: assessment of the status of women in Georgian law enforcement structures; gender issues and security sector reforms instruments; creation of the South-East women’s network in close cooperation with South-East Europe Police Heads Association, initiatives developed in 2010.

In 2005, in two regions of Georgia – Upper Svaneti and Mtskheta-Mtianeti, policewomen association was created. Organization united 70 police staff, including district patrol police and regional police main division personnel. UN Mission civil police component representative in Georgia facilitated creation of the association. In addition, some law enforcement bodies and the subunit of the Ministry of Internal Affairs was staffed with mainly women.

Despite the women representation problem in power structures, their participation in field operations and international peacekeeping forces, still represents a pressing issue in Georgia.

15 EXPRESSES ITS WILLINGNESS TO ENSURE THAT SECURITY COUNCIL MISSIONS TAKE INTO ACCOUNT GENDER CONSIDERATIONS AND THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN, INCLUDING THROUGH CONSULTATION WITH LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S GROUPS;

16

INVITES THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO CARRY OUT A STUDY ON THE IMPACT OF ARMED CONFLICT ON WOMEN AND GIRLS, THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN PEACE-BUILDING AND THE GENDER DIMENSIONS OF PEACE PROCESSES AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION, AND FURTHER INVITES HIM TO SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL ON THE RESULTS OF THIS STUDY AND TO MAKE THIS AVAILABLE TO ALL MEMBER STATES OF THE UNITED NATIONS;

ROLE OF THE CIVIL SOCIETY

As a result of military conflicts and the Russia-Georgia war of 2008, Georgia had to face many problems and challenges. Tens of thousands of IDPs live in Georgia; however, no effective conflict resolution policy was implemented in the country. Currently the government is ready for implementation of the # 1325 Resolution, to adopt a national action plan, although it would have been advisable to start that process at an earlier stage. Representatives of the civil society addressed the government of Georgia with the specially developed recommendations on necessity of adoption of a similar document. In 2006 Women's organizations of Georgia facilitated lobbying of the national action plan. Despite all efforts, the national plan was not adopted, although some paragraphs of the document were reflected in the gender equality policy action plan for 2007-2009.

For representatives of the civil society working on women's rights and gender issues, the role of women is very important in all spheres of life; it especially concerns security issues and rehabilitations process of countries affected by conflicts.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Necessity of adopting the national action plan for implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution # 1325 is recognized not only by NGOs and international organizations, but by state representatives as well; they express readiness for cooperation.

Chairperson of the Parliament of Georgia, David Bakradze, stated at the 55th session of the UN Women's Commission that "in conditions, where part of Georgia's territory is still occupied, implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution # 1325 "Women, Peace and Security" is important, since almost half a million IDPs, among which majority are women, became victims of violence" .

*Village Brotsleti,
in 2008,*



17

REQUESTS

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, WHERE APPROPRIATE, TO INCLUDE IN HIS REPORTING TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL PROGRESS ON GENDER MAINSTREAMING THROUGHOUT PEACEKEEPING MISSIONS AND ALL OTHER ASPECTS RELATING TO WOMEN AND GIRLS;

Foundation is prepared – presence of political will; positive instruments are created as well as legislative environment for strengthening of gender equality.

We can outline the following:

At the **institutional level** – Gender Equality Permanent Parliamentary Council; Inter-agency Council of DV issues; Human Trafficking Victim Protection and Assistance State Fund;

At the **legislative level** – Gender Equality State Concept; law “On Gender Equality”; law “On Domestic Violence Elimination, protection and assistance of DV victims”; law “On Human Trafficking”; Action Plan for implementation of Gender Equality Policy for 2010-2013.

We deem it important that in working on the national action plan for UN Security Council Resolution # 1325, the work group considered following recommendations:

1. It is necessary to involve women and other profile non-government organizations in the process of development, implementation and monitoring of the Resolution # 1325;
2. It is necessary to involve conflict affected and IDP persons, especially women, in the Resolution # 1325 implementation national action plan development process.
3. It is necessary to correctly define priorities and activities based on the country context during work on the action plan;

4. It is necessary to conduct a survey/research, especially on participation of women in security and peacemaking process on formal and informal levels for the purpose of determining new strategic opportunities for participation;
5. During development and implementation of the action plan, it is necessary to use local and international experts and conduct additional consultations with experts;
6. It is necessary to share experience of countries, which have adopted the Resolution # 1325 implementation action plan;
7. It is necessary to better inform state structures' representatives on the content and importance of the Resolution # 1325;
8. It is necessary to allocate budget funds for implementation of the # 1325 Resolution action plan;
9. It is necessary to better inform general public on the content and importance of the Resolution # 1325;
10. It is necessary to strengthen legislative efforts in order to facilitate increase of women participation on political levels and focus on the draft-law submitted by the Coalition of Women NGOs' initiative group. It concerns amendments in the organic law: "Elections Code of Georgia" and "Political Associations of Citizens";
11. It is necessary and important to conduct joint and simultaneous monitoring over the action plan by non-governmental as well as state organizations.

18

**DECIDES
TO REMAIN
ACTIVELY
SEIZED OF
THE MATTER.**

Development of the action plan of any kind and its adoption requires time, human and financial resources. The time, however, does not wait. The country faces problems – occupied territories, conflict affected families and women, whose resource is still unused.

It is important to make a step today in order to facilitate implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution # 1325 national action plan and CEDAW recommendations.

*Tbilisi,
September 12, 2008*



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